

Questions from Barry, Monday 6-13-2011

Barry_Hayhurst to: Sabrina Forrest

06/13/2011 03:06 PM

From: Barry_Hayhurst@URSCorp.com

To:

Here are some tentative questions I have for the experts

Questions:

Sources:

1. Small (sometime very small mountain creeks) drain into Cement Creek all down the drainage. Should these be counted as a source or the mine waste rock-tailings-adit discharge as the source. There are currently no documented targets on any of these small feeder streams. This is a conceptual issue for me----how to depict these multiple side streams in a data table.

2. How important is documenting any type of engineered control on any of the sources?

Surface Water Pathway--surface water samples:

1. As I understand the scenarios we are going for two different targets; wetlands and sensitive environments, and an adjacent or nearby fisherman. For the surface water samples I am using the SCDM Environmental Acute and SCDM Environmental Chronic benchmarks. Are these the appropriate benchmarks for wetlands and sensitive environments? Is there a more logical choice for a benchmark and do I need a third for the "adjacent or nearby fisherman"? I don't understand how the MCLs fit into this scenario?

2. I have elevated (3X) readings in surface water of cadmium, with copper, zinc, lead, and aluminum in the upper half of the drainage. There are no fish present or drinking water users, just wetlands and sensitive environments. Where do samples need to come from to count the streamside wetland (specifically within the wetland or bracketing the wetland?)?

3. Currently there are no USDOI Wetlands Inventory Maps prepared for the upper Cement Creek drainage where the 3X background contamination is documented. Maps exist north and south of the Cement Creek area. The current wetlands areas were sketched on the sample map by a START GIS person as their interpretation gleaned from an aerial photograph. It is my understanding that I would need to go to the potential wetlands, dig a pit and do a soil profile to document the presence of a wetland and then map the aerial extent of the wetland. This documentation would serve as a reference in lieu of a USDOI wetlands inventory map. Would this be the correct way to document wetlands in upper Cement Creek?

4. I'm not sure I completely understand the nearby or adjacent fisherman scenario.

Surface Water Pathway--sediment samples:

1. The sediment samples show sporadic elevated concentrations (3X background, > benchmarks) of arsenic, silver, zinc, and barium. Since the only benchmarks using mg/Kg are SCDM soil exposure and SCDM Human Food Chain I have used those two benchmarks. Neither of these benchmarks seem applicable to the wetlands but perhaps to the nearby adjacent fisherman? Are these the appropriate (and perhaps only available benchmarks?). Is there another benchmark I should be using

Again, do the sediment samples need to be located within a wetland to count that wetland or do the samples merely need to bracket the wetland?

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Forrest.Sabrina@epamail.epa.gov

06/13/2011 12:47 PM

To Katharine Lima <kncj@sbcglobal.net>

cc Barry_Hayhurst@urscorp.com, Myers.Robert@epamail.epa.gov

Subject Re: availability for a call this week?

As for BJ, I don't know; depends on Barry's questions. We shall see...

Sincerely,

Sabrina Forrest

NPL Coordinator &

Site Assessment Manager

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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From: Katharine Lima <kncj@sbcglobal.net>

To: Sabrina Forrest/R8/USEPA/US@EPA

Cc: Robert Myers/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Barry_Hayhurst@urscorp.com

Date: 06/13/2011 11:43 AM

Subject: Re: availability for a call this week?

No problem - I'm pretty open this week. Would you need BJ on the call as well?

Katharine Lima

Environmental Scientist

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--- On Mon, 6/13/11, Forrest.Sabrina@epamail.epa.gov <Forrest.Sabrina@epamail.epa.gov> wrote:

From: Forrest.Sabrina@epamail.epa.gov <Forrest.Sabrina@epamail.epa.gov>

Subject: availability for a call this week?

To: kncj@sbcglobal.net

Cc: Myers.Robert@epamail.epa.gov, Barry_Hayhurst@urscorp.com

Date: Monday, June 13, 2011, 12:19 PM

Katharine, If START has some more questions to put forward this week with the goal of finalizing their Quickscore(s) this week, do you have time for a call with me and START member, Barry Hayhurst?

Sincerely,

Sabrina Forrest

NPL Coordinator &

Site Assessment Manager

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